

Background Use Only

D-R-A-F-T

7 November 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

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FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Logistics Views on Next Steps for CLAS

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1. I spoke with [REDACTED] on 5 November and he filled me in on his discussion with senior Logistics managers about possible options for continuing the CLAS effort. He summarized for them the visits to MSA and Cullinet and said that he could identify four different courses of action that Logistics could pursue:

a) Choose MSA as the contractor of choice and continue the development of the Purchasing package and investigate the Inventory package to be integrated into FRED and attempt to convince Finance to adopt the Accounts Payable package that is part of FRED. This option involves further investigation of both MSA's willingness and ability to develop an IDMS/R version of FRED or alternatively having Logistics run FRED under another DBMS -- VSAM/CICS or possibly DB2.

b) Go with Cullinet's system and switch completely from MSA. This option would fit in better than option a. insofar as current Finance and OIT plans are concerned but would involve some relearning for Logistics people who are already familiar with the MSA approach and terminology. The anticipated IOC for either option a. or option b. is mid 1988.

c) Stay with ICS and CONIF for another few years until the Agency DBMS picture is clearer and the commercial integrated financial systems are wrung out a bit.

d) Develop an independent capability in-house.

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2. Logistics management rejected option d. out of hand and did not seem particularly enamoured with option c. either. They asked [REDACTED] to gather some further information on options a. through c. (e.g. the comparative cost of necessary modifications to both the MSA and Cullinet systems and current OIT thinking on the DBMS for the corporate data base). [REDACTED] is expected to report back with a recommendation within the next two weeks.

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STAT 3. The teams now are gathering additional data on the estimated
STAT cost of required package modifications and are re-evaluating both
STAT the MSA and Cullinet systems in further detail. Summary written
responses to the list of questions submitted to Cullinet were
returned by Bruce McLeod on 7 November. [] has begun checking
the OIT view of the DBMS situation and has received mixed signals
thus far. [] chief of MISG, under which the CLAS and
BARS program are being developed by OIT, indicates that IDMS/R is
the DBMS of choice for the Agency's corporate data base and has a
robust future. [] former chief of Corporate Systems
Development Division within MISG and now a special assistant to the
DDA, said that DB2, which is soon to be installed in the Special
Center, is the DBMS of the future and that IDMS/R is not the horse
to back. He added, however, that VSAM/CICS could not provide the
necessary security and recovery capabilities for large real-time
systems like CLAS and BARS.

STAT 4. [] joined our discussion for a brief period and said
that he thought the nub of the problem in developing an integrated
system like CLAS or set of systems like the projected DDA corporate
data base was the organizational differences that shaped the
respective approaches of the DDA offices that had distinct missions
and conflicting sets of priorities. He cited as an example his view
that the bill paying function ought to reside in Logistics rather
than Finance although he recognized that Finance, in turn, would
prefer to have the procurement function within its control. He
thought the key was to draw up a reasonable schedule, assemble a
group of highly motivated and competent people, and simply press
ahead.